AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1.   (currently amended) An information processing apparatus connected to a plurality of information terminals by way of a network, comprising:

storing means for storing user information;

authenticating means for authenticating a user based on said user information stored in said storing means;

recording means for recording a request information transmitted by a first user authenticated by said authenticating means; wherein said first user is a customer and said request information is a request for an offer to sell goods matching the request to said customer;

supplying means for supplying a service list of said request information recorded by said recording means to a second user authenticated by said authenticating means in response to a demand entered from said second user;

said recording means recording service information transmitted by said second user in response to the request information in said service list; wherein said second user is a shop and said service information is said offer;

searching means for searching for service information corresponding to said request information and said user information of a said second user recorded by said recording means, in response to a demand for a request list from said first user; and

transferring means for transferring said request list to said first user, wherein said request list includes a mark which expresses the existence of service information corresponding to the request information.

Claim 2.   (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said user information includes a user ID, a password and an electronic mail address.

Claim 3.   (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said transferring means transfers said service information corresponding to said request information as a search result to said first user by an electronic mail based on said user information for the first user stored in said storing means

Claim 4.   (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said service information includes an address information on the network for obtaining directly from said second user a desired information among said service information.

Claim 5.   (canceled)

Claim 6.   (canceled)

Claim 7.   (currently amended)   A method for processing information among a plurality of information terminals connected to a network, said method comprising the steps of:

storing user information for each of said information terminals,

authenticating a user based on said user information stored in said storing means,

recording a request information transmitted by a first user authenticated in said authenticating step, wherein said first user is a customer and said request information is a

request for an offer to sell goods matching the request to said customer;

supplying a service list of said request information recorded in said recording step to a second user authenticated in said authenticating step in response to a demand entered from said second user;

recording service information transmitted by said second user in response to the request information in said service list; wherein said second user is a shop and said service information is said offer;

searching for service information corresponding to said request information and said user information of a-the second user recorded by said recording means-in response to a demand for a request list from said first user, and

transferring said request list to said first user, wherein the request list includes a mark which expresses the existence of service information corresponding to the request information.

Claim 8.   (canceled)

Claim 9.   (previously presented) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said user information includes a user ID, a password and an electronic mail address.

Claim 10.   (previously presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein said transferring step transfers said service information corresponding to said request information as a search result to said first user by an electronic mail based on said user information for the first user stored in said storing means

Claim 11.   (previously presented) The method according to Claim 10, wherein said service information includes an address information on the network for obtaining directly from said second user a desired information among said service information.

Claim 12.   (canceled)